# Sri Vaidyanatheshwara Temple, Kokkada, Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka

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Info is given under following headings: Location, address, phone number...etc., how to get there, greatness of this temple, history and legends connected to Pandavas staying here in exile and Bhima killing Bakasura, architecture, Main deity here and subdeities, daily poojas and rituals and their charges, special poojas, sevas and their charges, festivals, facilities for devotees such as accommodation etc,, donation info, bank acct numbers etc.., nearby Temples, nearby places of tourist interest, nearby budget hotels, .any other info...etc.

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**Location, Address, Phone Number, etc.**

The Sri Vaidyanatheshwara Temple (also called Sin Vaidyanatheshwara Temple) is located in Kokkada village, Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka – in the lush foothills of the Western Ghats, surrounded by dense forests and coffee plantations.

**Address**:

Sri Vaidyanatheshwara Temple, Kokkada Post, Belthangady Taluk, Dakshina Kannada District, Karnataka – 574240.

**Phone Number:**
08256-236057 (Temple Office)
08256-236058 (Priest / Committee)

Email: Not widely listed; contact via phone.

**Website**: No official website; managed by the local temple committee and devotees.

**How to Get There**

**By Road**: Kokkada is about 80 km from Mangalore, 35 km from Belthangady, 25 km from Dharmasthala, and 70 km from Puttur.
Frequent KSRTC buses from Mangalore to Dharmasthala or Uppinangady, then change for Kokkada. Private taxis from Mangalore (2–2.5 hours) or Belthangady (45 min) are convenient.

**By Train**: Nearest railway station is Mangalore Junction (80 km) or Subrahmanya Road (40 km). From there, taxi/bus.

**By Air**: Mangalore International Airport (IXE) – 90 km (2.5–3 hours by cab).

**Best Time**: October to March; the area is prone to heavy monsoon rains.

**Greatness of This Temple, History and Legends**

Sri Vaidyanatheshwara Temple is an ancient and highly revered Shiva temple, considered a Jangama Linga Kshetra (living linga) and one of the powerful healing shrines in Dakshina Kannada.

The presiding deity is worshipped as Vaidyanatheshwara (Lord Shiva as the Supreme Physician), who grants relief from diseases, chronic ailments, and mental distress.

**Legend**:

The temple is believed to have been established by Lord Parashurama. It is said that when the Pandavas were in exile, they visited this place and Lord Shiva appeared here to cure Bhima's ailments.
Another **popular story** states that the linga is swayambhu and self-manifested, and the temple has been a place of refuge for saints and sages over centuries.
The temple is also known for its **association with Nath tradition (Jangama sect)** and has been patronized by the local Gowda and Jain communities historically.
**Devotees believe** that offering prayers here ensures complete recovery from serious illnesses, especially those that medical science struggles to cure.

**Architecture**

The temple is built in traditional Kerala-Dravidian style with a three-tiered copper-plated vimana gopuram over the sanctum. The sanctum sanctorum houses the swayambhu linga in a simple yet powerful setting. The temple has a large open courtyard, a beautiful Nandi mandapa, and several smaller shrines. The surrounding forest and hill backdrop add to its serene and spiritual ambiance.

**Main Deity Here and Subdeities**

**Main Deity:**

Lord Vaidyanatheshwara – Swayambhu Shiva Linga, worshipped as the healer and destroyer of diseases.

**Subdeities:**

Goddess Parvati (as Vaidyanayaki / Annapoorneshwari)
Lord Ganesha
Lord Subramanya
Lord Bhairava
Naga Devatas
Shani Dev

Navagraha

**Daily Poojas and Rituals and Their Charges**

**Temple timings**: 6:00 AM – 1:00 PM and 4:30 PM – 8:00 PM (approx.).

**Daily rituals include:**

Suprabhata Seva
Abhisheka
Rudrabhisheka
Naivedya
Mangalarati

**Charges (approximate, as of 2025; confirm at temple):**

Archana: Rs. 20–50
Abhisheka: Rs. 100–300
Rudrabhisheka: Rs. 500–1,000
Special offerings: Rs. 100+

**Special Poojas, Sevas and Their Charges**

**Popular sevas:**

Maha Rudrabhisheka – Rs. 1,500–2,000 (highly recommended for health)
Mrityunjaya Homam – Rs. 3,000–5,000
Aayushya Homam – Rs. 2,000+
Kala Sarpa Dosha Parihara Puja – Rs. 1,000–2,000
Shani Shanti – Rs. 500–1,000
Advance booking recommended, especially for homams.

**Festivals**

- Maha Shivaratri – Grand abhishekas and all-night vigils
- Annual Rathotsava – March/April (Phalguna month)
- Karthika Masam – Special lighting and deepa pradakshina
- Gowri Habba – August/September

**Facilities for Devotees Such as Accommodation etc.**

Temple-run dharmashala (basic rooms) available at nominal rates (Rs. 200–500).

Free annadana (simple meals) on festival days.

Clean restrooms and parking facilities.

No luxury stays inside temple premises; nearby resorts in Dharmasthala or Belthangady.

**Donation Info, Bank Acct Numbers etc.**

Donations are accepted at the temple hundi.
For bank transfers, contact the temple office directly (phone numbers above).
Many devotees sponsor abhisheka, annadana, or homams in the name of family members.

**Nearby Temples**

- Sri Manjunatha Temple, Dharmasthala (25 km)
- Sri Kukke Subrahmanya Temple (40 km)
- Sri Adishakti Temple, Kukke (nearby)
- Sri Mahalingeshwara Temple, Puttur (50 km)

**Nearby Places of Tourist Interest**

- Bisle Viewpoint – 10 km (panoramic Western Ghats view)
- Kabbinale Falls – 15 km
- Kuthirangadige – Trekking spot
- Kemmara Coffee Plantation – 8 km
- Balekallu – Natural rock formations

**Nearby Budget Hotels**

- Hotel Vaidyanatha (Kokkada village) – Rs. 800–1,200
- Hotel Annapurna, Dharmasthala (25 km) – Rs. 1,000–2,000
- Resorts in Belthangady (35 km) – Rs. 1,500–3,000
- Basic lodges in Kokkada/Belthangady – Rs. 500–1,000

**Any Other Info**

The temple is particularly **famous for health-related miracles;** many devotees return with offerings after recovery.

**Dress code**: Traditional attire preferred.

**No photography** inside sanctum.

The temple maintains a very peaceful and healing atmosphere.

🙏 Jai Vaidyanatheshwara! May the Lord of Healing bless all devotees with good health, peace, and prosperity.

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**Photos**

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**YouTube Videos**

Kokkada Sri Vaidyanatheshwara temple (6.3 min):

https://youtu.be/vgxD8SydZ5w?si=r4a7p59AIBwBOh0m

Kokkada Sri Vaidyanatheshwara temple (10 min):

https://www.facebook.com/share/v/16SpKBPBna/

Sri Vaidyanatheshwara Vishnumurthy Temple, Kokkada (5 min):

https://youtu.be/gzs-8JmdwU4?si=MQgza1zRkVFjMj5F

Kokkada Vaidyanatheshwara temple (10 min):

https://youtu.be/-pPDK0BPRC8?si=fqHAgZF5FaK2OiAC

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**Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar**
**December 19, 2025**